

## Ben Ali on landmark Egypt visit

CAIRO (AP) — President Zine Al Abdine Ben Ali of Tunisia arrived Tuesday for a three-day official visit, the first by a Tunisian head of state in 25 years, the Middle East News Agency reported. Egypt's president and Ben Ali's host, Hosni Mubarak, was at Cairo International airport to greet the Tunisian for their fourth meeting since Ben Ali came to power in November 1987. Their last summit was in Tunisia last September, when they put finishing touches on a consular agreement that cancelled visa requirements for their nationals in each other's country. In Cairo, the presidents are expected to discuss regional, African and Mideast issues. Tunisia's ambassador to Cairo, Mahmoud Al Moustafa, told Middle East News Agency Monday they would also discuss the need to form a united Arab position on the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel. The last Tunisian head of state to visit Egypt was former President Habib Bourguiba, now retired.

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## Algeria to aid Hrawi

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria has agreed to send military equipment to troops loyal to Lebanese President Elias Hrawi to help him expand his control over the war-torn country, an official source said Tuesday. The source said the decision was taken after talks between Hrawi and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, the first concrete result of Hrawi's tour of members of a tripartite Arab peace committee on Lebanon. "President Chadli has ordered Algeria to provide the Lebanese army with equipment to enable it to carry out its security mission in Lebanon," the source said. He was unable to specify what kind of equipment Algeria planned to provide. Hrawi arrived in Algeria from Saudi Arabia Monday and was due to leave for Morocco later Tuesday — the third member of the committee delegated by an Arab summit last May to try to bring peace to Lebanon.

## More EC aid for Palestinians

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) foreign ministers have endorsed a plan to double EC aid to Palestinians in the occupied territories over the next two years, diplomats said. The community proposes providing \$6.6 million in 1990, rising to \$13.2 million in 1992. Since 1971 it has spent a total of about \$185 million on Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, much of it channelled through the U.N. Relief and Works Agency. Officials said the new money would be directed at social welfare, education and community institutions and stimulating economic development rather than at refugee programmes.

## Israël says Fateh members captured

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel said Tuesday it had intercepted a ship off the Lebanese coast and seized two members of the Fateh, one of them a senior officer. A military communiqué said the Israeli navy stopped the ship 11 days ago and forced it to sail to Israel with all its passengers. Israel released the vessel Tuesday, letting go all on board except the two members of Fateh, which is led by Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat. Israel Radio identified the officer as Said Fanouci and said the boat had been sailing from Cyprus to Lebanon.

## Soviet parliament okays property law

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet parliament Tuesday passed a fundamental law regarded as a major step towards legalising the concept of private property, long regarded as taboo in a communist society. The law on property was approved by a vote of 350 to 3, with 11 abstentions, by the Supreme Soviet, the country's standing parliament, after a long and heated debate. It covers a broad range of property rights, including the right to own factor-

## Tanker fire put out

BAHRAIN (AP) — Firefighters put out a blaze aboard the U.S.-flagged Kuwaiti tanker Surf City Tuesday after a 12-day battle against the flames, the owners said. A Feb. 22 blast aboard the 81,283-ton oil products tanker, one of the 11 tankers that Kuwait re-registered in the United States at the height of the Iraq-Iran war to entitle them to U.S. navy protection, killed two of the 23-member American crew.

## Confusion in Russian polls

MOSCOW (R) — Election run-offs will be needed in many areas of the Soviet Union because the bewildering number of candidates and programmes last weekend left many voters baffled. While reformers defeated veteran Communists Sunday in major Soviet urban centres, most seats went unfilled due to the multiplicity of candidates. There were more than 7,000 candidates in the Russian Federation. In the Ukraine 3,091 candidates fought over 450 seats and in Byelorussia 1,128 candidates vied for 310 places. In some districts as many as 20 candidates ran.

## King voices satisfaction over outcome of talks with French president in Paris

# Jordan, France discuss Mideast peace efforts

By a Jordan Times staff writer with agency dispatches

PARIS — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday held talks with French President Francois Mitterrand on Franco-Jordanian relations and international developments as well as Middle East issues with special focus on the Soviet Jewish influx to Israel.

The King briefed the French leader on the achievements of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) and called for closer relations between the ACC and the EC.

After the talks, which included a lunch hosted by Mitterrand, the King told reporters that he was satisfied with the outcome of his meeting with the French leader whom he praised as "a man of principle and a wise leader."

In reply to questions, the King described the position of Israel's dominant Likud Bloc on peace as unrealistic. He said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), whom Israel rejects as a negotiating partner, had adopted constructive stands on peace.

"I believe the PLO has adopted a positive and constructive position..." he said. "We support them with all our force. Up to now, Israel has been negative and unrealistic."

The King said an Arab summit

was needed to discuss the course of Arab issues and the future of the Arab World. But any such summit needs careful preparation, he added. "Its results should be different from previous Arab summits," he said.

The King said Israeli threats against Jordan were not new. Jordan alone can respond if it can hold out against these threats, and its record indicates it can, he said.

Earlier Tuesday, the King held talks with French Prime Minister Michel Rocard, Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement on international issues and the need to find a just and durable settlement to the Middle East conflict, particularly that Israel seeks to settle part of the new arrivals in the occupied Palestinian territories, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The King voiced appreciation for the French and European Community (EC) positions on the Middle East problem and noted that "these positions are based on international legitimacy." Petra said.

The King and Mitterrand voiced particular concern over

(Continued on page 3)

## Ikhwan suggests inclusions in national charter

By Lamis Andoni  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Muslim Brotherhood, the most influential organised group in the country, demanded Tuesday that a proposed national charter to regulate political life in the Kingdom should include a goal of complete liberation of Palestine. It also appeared to demand the exclusion of leftist trends from the Kingdom's political life.

In a four-page pamphlet distributed to the press, the Brotherhood (Ikhwan), the biggest bloc in the Lower House of Parliament, advocated the total liberation of Palestine and Jihad (holy war) to confront the "Zionist threat."

"The liberation of Palestine from the sea (Mediterranean) to the river (Jordan) is an Islamic duty... the liberation of Palestine is the responsibility of all Arabs and Muslims... leaders and nations alike," the statement said. "Jihad with money and soul is the solution for preserving and defending the nation in the face of the Zionist threat," it added.

The Brotherhood's call, which amounts to a demand for the elimination of Israel, contradicts the policy of Jordan, which has accepted United Nations resolutions recognising the existence of the state of Israel.

During the run-up to the Nov. 8 general elections, Ikhwan members publicly called for allowing military operations against Israel across the demarcation line. The latest Ikhwan pamphlet, titled "The National Charter: Its basic as viewed by the Muslim Brotherhood," however, fell short of a direct call for military attacks against Israel. Nevertheless, the pamphlet did urge Arab countries to supply Jordan with financial aid and arms to defend its post-war borders.

"Mistakes were made on all sides, including by me," Kohl told journalists later. The Bonn initiative coincided with comments in Moscow by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who said any German plans to recover lost territory would be " fraught with serious consequences."

In East Berlin, the foreign ministry said East and West Germany would begin preparatory talks on unification this week. There was no immediate reaction from Poland to the West German compromise, which envisages the East and West Ger-

Bush also urged U.S. Jewish leaders to help to promote a pre-election dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians as soon as possible.

"This remains the surest path available to promoting a peace that would ensure Israeli security and the legitimate political rights of Palestinians," Fitzwater said.

Bush made the statement in a telephone conversation with Seymour Reich, president of the Conference of Presidents of American Jewish Organisations, who called voice concern at a Bush statement over the weekend expressing opposition to Jewish settlements "in the West Bank and East Jerusalem."

The fact that Bush equated Jewish suburbs of Jerusalem with West Bank settlements provoked an immediate outcry in Israel and a defiant response from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

It was the latest in a series of clashes between Israel and Washington in the past week that appeared to endanger intense diplomatic efforts to establish a peace dialogue between Israel and Palestinians.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Bush had assured Reich that the United States supported a "united Jerusalem" whose final status would be determined by negotiations.

"The president also made clear U.S. support for Jews as well as others to live there in the context of a negotiated settlement," Fitzwater said.

(Continued on page 3)

## Bush seeks to heal rift with Israel

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President George Bush has moved to heal a growing rift with Israel, declaring that he supports the right of Jews to live in a "united Jerusalem" whose status would be determined in a Middle East peace settlement.

Bush made the statement in a telephone conversation with Seymour Reich, president of the Conference of Presidents of American Jewish Organisations, who called voice concern at a Bush statement over the weekend expressing opposition to Jewish settlements "in the West Bank and East Jerusalem."

The president urged Mr. Reich and all those who shared his concern for the Middle East to continue to devote themselves to bringing about as soon as possible a pre-election dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians," Fitzwater said.

Bush also reiterated U.S. support for the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel "and made it clear that the United States will oppose any efforts designed to frustrate this human right."

Bush also signalled again that the United States will back a \$400-million loan guarantee for housing the Soviet refugees "provided the United States and Israel can work out assurances that satisfy the United States on settlement activity," Fitzwater said.

(Continued on page 3)

## Bonn reports Polish border compromise

BONN (Agencies) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl Tuesday dropped his insistence on linking German recognition of Poland's borders to war reparations, backing down on an issue that has split his government and strained relations with his allies.

His centre-right coalition government then approved a compromise formula designed to reassure Poland that a united Germany would respect its post-war borders.

"Mistakes were made on all sides, including by me," Kohl told journalists later.

The Bonn initiative coincided with comments in Moscow by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who said any German plans to recover lost territory would be " fraught with serious consequences."

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There was no immediate reaction from Poland to the West German compromise, which envisages the East and West Ger-

## Israelis keep up disguise tactics

OCCUPIED GAZA (R) — Israeli security forces disguised as Arabs drew their guns and fired in the air when youths started stoning a passing army jeep in occupied Gaza City Tuesday, Palestinians said.

Witnesses said about 30 security men — their faces masked by chequered Arab headresses — revealed their identity at the city's main produce market, firing their guns to disperse the stone-throwing youths.

Nearly uniformed troops also opened fire with teargas and rubber bullets. Four Arabs were treated at hospital for beatings and teargas inhalation. The Israelis made at least three arrests.

Israeli military censors made deletions from this report

Israel deploys disguised security men as part of its battle against the Palestinian uprising. Police closed the area for about 90 minutes. Clashes erupted between Israeli forces and high school students.

Palestinian sources said at least five people were shot and wounded elsewhere in the Gaza Strip. About 15 girls who threw stones at Israeli troops near Khan Younis were taken to hospital after inhaling teargas.

Military sources said police Monday had removed the headless body of a Palestinian woman from her Hebron home in the West Bank.

Palestinians said Arabs stabbed Sara Riashi, 35, and cut off her head after she was suspected of prostitution and collaborating with Israeli authorities.

Israel Radio said another body was found on Tuesday, hanging from a tree in Beit Hanoun in the Gaza Strip. Palestinians told the radio that the dead man, Fahim Shaban Azzeen, 23, was suspected of collaborating.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, Israeli forces demolished the home of prisoner Jabal Muhammad Hawash who was arrested four months ago.

Military sources said Hawash was a member of the Red Eagle strike force, one of the Palestinian groups that enforces directives of the clandestine uprising leadership.

The 12-member policy-making

## Kabul says coup failed amid conflicting reports

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Afghanistan's defence minister and guerrillas attempted to overthrow President Najibullah's Soviet-backed government Tuesday but failed, Radio Kabul said.

But rebel sources, Western diplomats and the official Soviet news agency reported fighting in the Afghan capital.

Najibullah himself declared that the coup had failed, TASS news agency reported.

Najibullah's statements were made in a speech read on Kabul Radio, TASS reported from Kabul, where planes attacked the presidential palace and heavy fighting broke out on the streets of the day.

The address pointed out that calm has been preserved across the country. The coup has been prevented," TASS said.

But, sources among the Pakistani guerrillas waging a 12-year-old war against the government said rebel commanders inside Afghanistan reported widespread fighting in Kabul.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerashimov earlier told reporters in Moscow there was fighting at Kabul's air-

## Badran meets Amnesty chief

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Muamer Badran Tuesday reviewed with Amnesty International Secretary General Ian Martin the latest developments in Jordan, including the restoration of democratic life, the liberalisation process in the Kingdom and political prisoners. Martin paid tribute to Jordan's policies and voiced satisfaction over conditions of prisoners in the country. He praised the efforts made by those in charge of the prisoners to rehabilitate and enable them to contribute effectively in the development of their communities. Badran expressed Jordan's appreciation of the efforts made by Amnesty International to alleviate the suffering of people irrespective of their ideologies. Badran pointed out that Jordan, by restoring parliamentary life, granting broad general freedoms, cancelling martial law, supporting the independence of jurisdiction and releasing political prisoners, had taken the first step towards responsible democracy. The prime minister said there were no political prisoners in Jordan and that any contradicting claims were irrelevant.

## Israeli coalition moves closer to disintegration

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's uneasy coalition government, in turmoil over Middle East peace proposals, moved closer to disintegration Tuesday.

The immediate cause was an ultimatum from the rightist Likud Party of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir demanding that its Labour partner agree to exclude the 140,000 Palestinians living in Arab Jerusalem from elections planned for the occupied territories.

Likud also said Labour must accept that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) could not be involved in any way in proposed talks between Israel and Palestinians.

Labour Party ministers responded by giving Shamir one day to accept a U.S. plan for talks with Palestinians or see the coalition government collapse.

"In practical terms by tomorrow the issue must be decided," Energy Minister Moshe Shahal said after an emergency party meeting of labour cabinet ministers.

The 12-member policy-making

inner cabinet is due to hold the decisive debate Wednesday.

"If there will not be a vote or if the vote goes against a positive response to the (U.S.) questions, it will mean the end of the nationalist unity government," Shahal said.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the pivotal figure in the broad government, stressed to reporters after the meeting the need for quick, decisive action: "I am an urgent need in convening the inner cabinet and taking a decision."

Vice-Premier and Labour leader Shimon Peres also said Labour may leave the coalition cabinet.

"They (Likud leaders) didn't relate to any question that (the U.S.) asked... in effect the meaning of their decision is that they responded to this in the negative," Peres told Israel army radio.

Labour decided two weeks ago to consider leaving the 15-month-old coalition government if Likud did not accept American Secretary of State James Baker's proposals by Wednesday. Israel Radio

said Peres was likely to recommend quitting the cabinet and trying to form a narrow coalition with small religious and left-wing parties.

However, it was unclear if Peres would get backing from Rabin, Labour's number two man, who has previously balked at attempts to break up the government.

The poll is to select Palestinians to negotiate with Israel on an interim period of self-government for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Peres said Likud had effectively rejected Baker's formula for initial talks with Palestinians.

"They also have chutzpah," Peres said, using the Yiddish word for audacity. "They were asked yes or no. So what are they trying to do, some mud-slinging at the Labour Party? We won't agree to this."

"First Likud wanted guarantees from the Americans" against PLO involvement in talks, Peres said. "They didn't succeed, so now they are trying to shift the whole burden to us."

But supporters of Abed Rabbo who describe themselves as the "realistic and nationalist Palestinian" trend say they enjoy the backing of most DFLP officials in the occupied territories.

They said that three of Abed Rabbo supporters — Saleh Raafat, Mamoud Nourf and Jamil Hilal — refrained from taking part in elections to the DFLP political bureau, making room for three DFLP members from the occupied territories.

They said that they declined an offer by Hawatmeh to share the leadership of the political bureau" in a gesture aimed at giving a bigger role to the leadership inside the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Abed Rabbo, who has been based in Damascus since 1987, heads the PLO delegation to the dialogue with the U.S. and has been operating very closely

## Tehran paper predicts 1990 to be last year for hostages

NICOSIA (Agencies) — A Tehran newspaper close to Iran's president said Tuesday that 1990 will be the last year of captivity for the hostages in Lebanon, noting in an editorial that the resumption of ties between Iran and the United States was not a precondition for their release.

The English-language Tehran Times said in a second editorial that Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad will visit Tehran soon, after an expected trip by his foreign minister, Farouk Al-Shara.

The second editorial denied reports that the trip by the President Hashemi Rafsanjani's brother to Damascus was related to the hostage question.

Both editorials in the government-owned newspaper were excerpted by the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia.

An Assad visit to Iran was expected. Syria was Iran's only staunch Arab hacker in its 1980-88 war against Iraq. Iran and Syria are also in frequent contact over Lebanon, where they back rival Shi'ite Muslim militias.

The Tehran Times statement said visits between capitals was "a very normal thing," noting that the sensation on the hostage issue created by the Western media over such visits was "much too fancied."

The Tehran Times editorial on the hostages was the second such statement in two weeks saying the 18 Westerners in Lebanon should go free without preconditions. In the past the government-owned paper has reflected the thinking of Rafsanjani.

"Our own assessment indicates that this thorny issue can be sorted out in the near future in a sincere spirit by sincere people," said the editorial, adding, "1990 can and will be the last year of the captivity of these hostages."

The editorial said an effort was underway to free the hostages because "Islam in no way allows or condones the idea that people should be taken or held hostage."

In Beirut, the respected An Nahar daily quoted unidentified Lebanese fundamentalist sources as saying that Iran was prepared to tackle the hostage issue, but ruling out any release soon.

The sources were quoted as saying that there had been no

direct contacts between Iran and the U.S., but both were scouting for a so far unavailable mechanism for releasing the hostages.

Tehran Times said there were no direct talks between Tehran and Washington on resuming relations.

"At this hour, Iran-U.S. relations are not under discussion and such a move is also not supported by the leader of the Islamic Republic and its top officials," said the paper.

It criticised the newspaper Kayhan International for linking the two issues in one of its own editorials, noting that "Iran has no hand in hostage taking at all."

Pro-Iranian Shi'ite Muslim groups in Lebanon are believed holding most of the 18 Westerners.

Kayhan backed of its Saturday editorial in a column Monday, saying Iran's opposition to any links with the United States was well known.

Also Tuesday, the Persian-language daily Jomhuri Islami criticised the Western media for "reviving the issue of Western hostages in Lebanon and again attributing it to Iran."

It said the West was once again trying to portray Iran as a "proto-terrorist state" and that reports of Tehran were aimed at sowing domestic mistrust of Iran's leaders.

It did not name any other newspapers in criticising them for commenting on U.S.-Iran ties and relating it to the hostages.

"Those in the local press who somehow relate the issue of Lebanese hostages to Iran-U.S. ties and offer guidelines in this connection, if not mercenary, are no doubt among those who do not know what to do or what to say."

Fitzwater said that while U.S. policy barred concessions to free the hostages, Washington was "ready to deal directly with authorized representatives of the government of Iran whenever Iran is ready to do so."

The Tehran Times said that the

visit to Damascus by Mahmoud Hashemi had nothing to do with freedom for the hostages.

A Syrian source, who refused to be identified further, said Sunday that the meeting Hashemi, a Foreign Ministry official, and Syria's Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara was to coordinate efforts to gain the release of all the hostages.

### U.S. ready for talks with Iran

In Washington, Monday the White House acknowledged that a lot is going on behind the scenes to win the release of Western hostages in Lebanon, but says it has no reason to believe a breakthrough is near.

"We cannot say that there is any movement. We know of no imminent release," spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Monday.

He said the United States would like to hold direct talks with Iran on the hostage issue but insisted no such talks are currently underway.

"There are no secret direct talks but I don't rule out all kinds of discussions and all kind of talks," Fitzwater said.

The White House official said a broad range of people were involved, including businessmen and diplomats.

"They're not official representatives... but I want to make it clear, there are a lot of people who will say they are, and a lot of people who have some justification, saying they've talked to us, they've gotten advice and comments and so forth."

"So there's a lot happening," he said.

His comments came amid increasing speculation that some of the 17 hostages — including eight Americans — might soon be freed.

Security sources in Beirut told Reuters Monday that Terry Anderson, 41, the Middle East bureau chief for the Associated Press might be released by March 16, the fifth anniversary of his abduction.

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## ICRC urges release of kidnapped Swiss

BEIRUT (AP) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) appealed anew Tuesday to the kidnappers holding two Swiss colleagues to release them or at least let them write their families.

"Since the sixth of October the ICRC has repeatedly called on you who carry a direct responsibility for their detention, to release Elio and Emmanuel," said Angelo Gnaedinger, the Red Cross delegate for the Middle East and North Africa, in his message to the captors.

"Today we renew this appeal and we tell you that we will spare no effort to pave the way and to find a solution to this problem," Gnaedinger pleaded during a news conference at the ICRC headquarters in mainly Muslim west Beirut.

Elio Erriquez, 23, and Emmanuel Christen, 32, worked as orthopedic technicians at an ICRC clinic in Sonth Lebanon's port city of Sidon, where they were kidnapped Oct. 6.

"The kidnapping is simply an unjust act... we therefore launch an appeal not only to those who have kidnapped Elio and Emmanuel but to all groups in Lebanon to freely respect that mission for the sake of those we're trying to assist," said Gnaedinger.

He said that over the past five months the ICRC has contacted

all political and military personalities in Lebanon who have pledged support in trying to win the release of the pair.

"We want to acknowledge that despite these assurances (of support) the problem is still unresolved," Gnaedinger said.

## Benjedid party reformists repulse challenge

ALGIERS (R) — Reformists in Algeria's ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) appear to have repulsed a challenge by hardliners in a raucous Central Committee meeting deemed crucial to the party's electoral prospects.

The extraordinary meeting was suspended late Sunday night, but officials said Tuesday specialised committees would continue work until a closing session later this month.

At stake is the unity and poli-

tical programme of the party that has ruled Algeria unchallenged for 27 years, but is due to face its first multi-party elections on the local level in June.

Most political observers say the FLN risks losing a number of municipal and provincial governments to the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front and other newly legal opposition parties.

Old guard FLN members powerful under former President

Houari Boumedienne used the meeting to attack economic reforms launched by President Chadli Benjedid, saying they risked setting the country on the road to capitalism.

"The reforms that have restructured state enterprises have brought no improvement," said former Industry Minister Abdal Salam Belaid, architect of the country's Socialist development in the 1970s.

Blankets, pots and pans, and ammunition boxes that double as tables were scattered over the black marble floor of the commercial centre's lobby.

The building housed the offices of American Express, the Dutch Airline KLM and the British Reuter News Agency.

## Turkey may give military priority to Mideast

ANKARA (R) — NATO-member Turkey has said it may eventually switch its defence priorities from Eastern Europe to the Middle East.

"Strategically, Turkey has to keep its forces deployed in all directions. If peace is achieved in Europe, it is natural that attention be directed to other regions, especially the Middle East," Chief-of-Staff Necip Torumay told the state-run television Mon-

day night.

"We may have to revise new strategies after closely following events in the Middle East and especially in neighbouring countries," he said.

Turkey maintains good relations with its neighbours though it has indirectly accused Iran, Iraq and Syria of harbouring separatist Kurdish rebels.

It guards one third of NATO's borders facing Warsaw Pact

countries and borders Iran, Iraq and Syria in the southeast.

Torumay said Turkey envisaged no major troop cuts before arms reduction talks in Europe are ended.

Meanwhile, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said Monday a Bulgarian coastguard boat opened fire on a Turkish vessel fishing in international waters of the Black Sea, wounding a crew member.

LONDON (R) — Amnesty International accused Chad Wednesday of torturing and secretly executing political prisoners, saying hundreds of detainees had disappeared.

"In response to armed opposition and insurrections, the authorities have condoned or permitted... arbitrary arrest, secret detention, torture and extrajudicial execution," the London-based human rights organisation said.

Reporting on political prisoners in Chad, Amnesty said the government of President Hissene Habre, a former guerrilla leader who came to power in 1982, had given no information about hun-

dreds arrested in the last eight years.

"The prisoners effectively 'disappeared' after arrest... unofficial sources, however, claim that a considerable number have died in custody and there is evidence that some have been executed extrajudicially," it said.

Certain prisoners were taken to the presidency before they were executed... strongly suggesting that President Habre knew they were to be killed."

According to Amnesty's information, none of the detainees had been brought to trial since 1982.

## Amnesty accuses Chad of torture, secret executions

He and other students said the hillside campus, located near the Arub Refugee Camp on the road to Hebron, would not be used to stage political protests.

"It is our central demand that we be educated," said the bearded Asafreh. "Students understand that they cannot receive education with riots. Riot and education cannot go together."

Arab bad 82 students and 12 teachers before the uprising began in December 1987, but only 55 students showed up for class Tuesday.

Sarsur said he did not know yet if any students were in jail for anti-Israeli activism.

He predicted unrest would not erupt on the Arub campus, adding: "The students are eager to return to their desks."

Army officials said if there was no trouble at the Arub college, where classes were held peacefully Tuesday, then officials would open the other 15 community colleges.

"It is going to be gradual," said one official who demanded anonymity. "If there is no incitement or security violations, we will see all of them open and functioning in a short time."

He and other officials called to make specific pledges but suggested that a peaceful reopening of junior colleges would pave the way for universities to resume operation.

## Uprising leaders invite Mandela to Palestine

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

Palestinian leaders of a 27-month-old revolt against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip Tuesday invited freed South African black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela to visit Palestine.

The Unified Leadership of

the Uprising invites African lead-

er Nelson Mandela to visit our

occupied Palestinian state to

observe on the ground the same

conditions of repression that both

of our struggling people live

under," a leaflet issued by the

clandestine command of the up-

rising said.

Mandela, 71, was freed in

February after 27 years in jail for

plotting to overthrow white rule

in South Africa.

The Unified Leadership, made

up of the four major groups in

the Palestine Liberation Organiza-

tion, called on Arab residents of

the West Bank, Gaza Strip and

East Jerusalem to start summer

time on March 10 — two weeks

ahead of Israel.

Palestinians said the Unified

Leadership had instituted a sepa-

rate summer time from Israel last

year as a symbolic gesture of

Arafat's independence from Israel.

The Unified Leadership also

called for marches and other pro-

test demonstrations Thursday to

mark International Women's Day

and urged local businesses to

make the day a paid holiday.

## Israel allows West Bank junior college to reopen

AL ARUB, Occupied West Bank (AP)

Facing international pressure to reopen Palestinian universities, Israel's army Tuesday allowed classes to resume at a West Bank teacher's college.

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where classes were held peacefully

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### Prince Ra'd thanks King

AMMAN (Petra) — Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid, president of the Friends of the Blind Society, Tuesday voiced appreciation to His Majesty King Hussein for his generous contribution to charitable societies. In a message to King Hussein, Prince Ra'd said that the King's contribution "embodies his paternal love to his family and reflects his passionate feelings towards each one of his family." King Hussein Monday placed an amount of 100,000 French francs, which the Falcons of Jordan won in the Malaysia air race, at the disposal of the Friends of the Blind Society, for use in the treatment of eye patients, especially those undergoing cornea transplants.

### Club honours chess aces

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, president of the Royal Chess Club, Tuesday attended a special party held at the club to honour members of the National Chess Club who took part in the Asian Cities Chess Championship held in Dubai from Jan. 16 to Feb. 2. The team scored the best-ever results that Jordan achieved in international championships. Prince Mohammad presented the team members with token gifts in appreciation of their efforts. The team members presented the medals they won to Prince Mohammad in recognition of his efforts to support chess in Jordan.

### Expired passports valid for return

AMMAN (J.T.) — Citizens living abroad and carrying expired Jordanian passports will be allowed to use them to return the Kingdom, according to instructions issued by Minister of Interior Salem Masa'deh. The minister, who was replying to an inquiry made by Lower House of Parliament member Mansour Murad, noted that Jordanians should carry passports if they want to return home and they can get them at Jordanian embassies abroad which can issue alternative identification papers if necessary. The minister noted also that Jordanian passports for nationals living abroad can be done through embassies and consulates and through authorising other persons to carry out this procedure. In this case, he said, approval by the General Intelligence and the Public Security departments will be needed, according to the provisions of the Passport Law.

### Iraqis to get equal treatment

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi nationals will be treated on equal footing with Jordanians upon registering as guests in Jordanian hotels, according to Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabariti. The minister said this measure would take effect as of April 1990. It was reached between the ministry and the Jordan Hotels Association (JHA). Ministry officials said the Jordanian move was expected to be reciprocated by the Iraqi authorities. The minister noted in a statement to Al Ray and the Jordan Times that the JHA and the Ministry of Tourism would soon dispatch a team to Iraq to help market Jordan's tourist sites there in implementation of an agreement taken by the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC). According to the Ministry of Tourism, the first tourist groups from Iraq are expected to arrive here in April.

### Electricity workers to elect council

AMMAN (J.T.) — Workers in the electricity sector will Thursday elect a new council and president, according to Samir Qardan, president of the General Association of Workers in the Electricity Sector. Two blocs, one headed by Qardan and the other headed by Walid Al Khayat, are running in the elections. The elections will take place Thursday morning at the premises of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions.

### Produce exports increase

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's exports of fresh fruit and vegetables during February amounted to 44,300 tonnes, worth JD 9.43 million, compared with 25,400 tonnes during the same month last year. However, Jordan's imports during the reported period were 4,000 tonnes, compared with 2,850 tonnes during the same month in 1989.

### Jordanian, American women to debate

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two Jordanian women, Subhia Maani, vice-president of the Business and Professional Women's Club, and Marian Shahin, a staff reporter for the Jordan Times, will exchange ideas with a panel of American businesswomen in Washington, via satellite. The programme will take place in the auditorium of the American Centre, Jabal Amman, Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. Guests are welcome.

### Friendship society elects board

AMMAN (J.T.) — The general assembly of the Jordanian-Italian Friendship Society has elected a new board chaired by Abdul Rahim Al Bahri. The board includes in addition to President Bahri, Mashhour Tadrus as vice-president; Raghib Salah as secretary; Dina Qatan as treasurer and Mahmoud Talhouni, Hani Dahleh, Mohammad Al Khatib, Mohammad Al Qassem and Fawaz Toukan as members. The society, which aims at promoting political, economic and cultural ties between Jordan and Italy was founded in 1982.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of oils and watercolours by Jordanian artist Yousef Badawi at the gallery, Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental — 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- ★ Exhibition by Jordanian artist Hassan Jalal at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition by plastic artists Arij Al Hammud and Ibrahim Al Naseef at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ Graphic art exhibition by Ne'mat Al Nasser at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ Art exhibition by seven Iraqi artists at Abdal Hameed Shoman Foundation.
- ★ Exhibition of ceramics by Iraqi artist Sileem Al Saoudi at Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental.

### LECTURES

- ★ Lecture on "Economics' Ethics and Law" by Dr. J.R. Keast, associate academic vice-president of Brigham Young University, at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Economy building — 5:00 p.m.
- ★ A lecture, in Arabic, by American University of Beirut (AUB) President Ibrahim Al Satti on AUB's present and future at the hotel Jordan Inter-Continental — 6:30 p.m.
- ★ A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "Parliament of the future in Jordan" by Adnan Abu Odeh, the political adviser of His Majesty King Hussein, at the Royal Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

### FILMS

- ★ A video entitled "Tumbledown" at the British Council — 5:00 p.m.
- ★ A French film entitled "Pechoux d'Islands" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

# University teachers give shape to union

By Marwan M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Academic staff at the University of Jordan took the initiative to set up the first-ever association of teachers of higher education in the Kingdom by convening a preparatory meeting at the campus Tuesday and unveiled what they described as the basic objectives of the proposed representative body.

About 150 professors and lecturers gathered at the university's Samir Rifai amphitheatre to hear some of their leaders speak of the necessity to set up an organised group to represent them and protect their rights. There are approximately 700 lecturers and professors at the University of Jordan.

The leaflet explained the objectives of the proposed association as:

— Reaffirming that university teaching is not a job but a profession;

— Upgrading the position of teachers in their "bargaining" positions with the administration; and

— Setting up the framework for educational reforms and philosophies.

The last attempt to form a

self-appointed steering committee of Dr. Fawaz Toukan, a former minister of social development, and Dr. Fawzi Sahawneh, a demographic scholar, chaired the meeting after a leaflet outlining the objectives of a university teachers association was distributed to the academics at the university.

Although the first meeting was basically pre-preparatory, certain demands by professors and lecturers came to the fore at the gathering. Many suggestions underlined the age-old conflict in all educational institutions between administrators and academics, ranging from elections of department heads instead of appointments to decentralisation of the whole university administration system.

"There is too much power in the hands of the president," said one professor. "He controls everything," he said, in-

sisting on anonymity. Another professor charged that appointments were often based on favouritism rather than merits of the candidates.

While Sahawneh said that he favoured the application of the universities law vis-a-vis professors, one professor said that he favoured amendments to the law with a view to making it more favourable towards the academic staff rather than the administration.

Many professors lamented "poor working conditions" at the university, and complaints ranged from lack of simple office facilities to transportation. "Most of us do not have access to basics, such as photocopy machines while some members of the administration are driving around in very big cars and have very big offices."

said one member of the teaching staff.

Another complaint aired Tuesday was that the rights of professors were "often violated" with the "victims" having "no legal recourse," particularly that there was no representative body for the university staff.

"According to the university law we are allowed to go on special assignments to other universities for three years," said a professor. "Our previous administration reduced it to one year without a plebiscite and without the approval of the people involved," one professor said adding that he was approached by several universities in the Gulf offering two-year contracts. "Last year we lost 25 professors to Gulf uni-

versities because our administration would not give them leave of absence. I don't want to resign but they certainly aren't making it easy for us," he said.

"All professors and lecturers agree we need a union in order to protect our personal and professional rights. It has always been a must but in the age of democracy in Jordan it has become our right to have a say in our future," concluded one professor, who was involved in the attempted establishment of a teachers union on campus in the 1970s.

Organisers expect more professors to attend the next scheduled meeting Monday at 6:00 p.m. in which more ground rules and election procedures are expected to be discussed.

## Sub-committee to study W. Bank, Gaza situation

AMMAN (Petra) — The Occupied Territories Affairs Committee of the Lower House of Parliament met and discussed a number of issues referred to it and decided to set up a sub-committee to be entrusted with drawing up a working paper on the nature of the problems encountered by the people in occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The committee, meeting under the chairmanship of its rapporteur Abdul Rahim Al Akour, also discussed the legal and humanitarian implications of the Jordanian government's 1988 decision to sever legal and administrative relations with the West Bank.

### Student quota raised

The Ministry of Higher Education has decided to increase the number of Palestinian students admitted to Jordanian community colleges from three per cent to five per cent.

The Higher Education Council has decided to allocate three per

cent of all seats in Jordanian universities to Palestinian students from the occupied territories.

The decision takes effect as of this year, according to sources.

### Agricultural panel meets

The House's agricultural committee also met Tuesday and discussed agricultural loans and problems facing tobacco farmers, in addition to a ban on the use of water from artesian wells. The committee's chairman, Sultan Al Adwan, said that talks focused on the need for writing-off or reducing interest on loans granted to small farmers.

On Saturday, the House will meet to discuss decisions adopted by its committees. Prime Minister Mudar Badran and cabinet ministers will also submit replies to deputies' queries. The House will also debate some of the proposals made by deputies to discuss the educational policy and supply and prices policy.

## Probe reveals violations by Zarqa Municipality

"The municipality has been in the practice of issuing licences for buildings in an unorthodox manner and in violation of all rules, and allowing some citizens to set up homes on plots of land partly owned by the state," the report said.

It said that the municipality has failed to fine the law violators and also failed to demolish parts of buildings built without proper licences or authorisation.

The report said that the Zarqa municipality also violated the law by appointing 120 employees since last December, despite explicit instructions that no appointments should be made and that numerous violations were committed concerning the use of municipal vehicles.

## Indian team briefed on APC production

KARAK (J.T.) — Rabi Ray, speaker of India's Lower House of Parliament, Tuesday visited the Arash Potash Company (APC), which exports nearly one quarter of its products to India making it the main importer of Jordanian potash.

At a meeting with APC Director Ali Ensour, Ray was told that the plant's current annual production capacity stands at 1.44 million tonnes but an expansion plan is expected to increase production to 1.8 million tonnes by the year 1993.

India, Ensour said, imports nearly half a million tonnes of Jordanian potash annually — 25

per cent of the total APC production.

Ray, who, accompanied by a parliamentary delegation, toured parts of the plant located at the southern tip of the Dead Sea, said that his country was linked with Jordan by friendship and trade ties. He said that the two countries were involved in joint projects in which Jordan provides raw materials while India provides expertise.

Ensour explained the APC's production programmes and said that Jordan ranked as the world's eighth biggest producer of potash, most of which was exported.

## Seminar studies ways to conserve energy

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar opened in Amman Tuesday to study means of reducing cost of industrial production through rationalising energy consumption and boosting national industries.

The seminar, which was organised by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), also aims to improve methods of energy consumption by Jordanian industries in order to reduce cost and improve product quality to compete in foreign markets, according to a ministry official.

The official said rationalising energy consumption will result in a reduction of the amount of imported fuel. It will also save hard currency.

According to the official, the ministry has begun a series of studies on model industries to be selected by the Chamber of Industry as case studies. Several engineers will be trained on energy consumption rationalisation.

The seminar, which was opened by ministry Secretary-General Ibrahim Badran, was attended by representatives of several public and private institutions and industrial concerns in Jordan.

Under the terms of a three-year agreement signed by the Jordanian government and USAID, the latter pledged to provide assistance in helping Jordan's exports both regionally and throughout the world.

### King

(Continued from page 1)

The King later met with the Arab ambassadors accredited to France and briefed them on Jordan's position on different Arab issues and the latest developments in the Arab region.

The King said the Arash World through the Gulf Cooperation Council, the ACC and the Arab Maghreb Union, had launched a new phase of action in the path of pan-Arab integration.

The King said events in Eastern Europe made it incumbent upon the Arab states to maintain a constant dialogue with Eastern European states and the Soviet Union.

The King, wrapping up a two-day visit to Paris, has scheduled talks Wednesday with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

### Bush

(Continued from page 1)

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler earlier Monday criticised Israel's decision to impose military censorship on news items about Soviet immigration.

Tutwiler said Washington included Arab Jerusalem in its definition of occupied territories.

"You know what our definition of territories is. It's the same one we've had for 23 years, and it refers to all territories occupied in 1967," she said.

## Ikhwan suggests inclusions in charter

(Continued from page 1)

to consult with all Jordanian trends "from the extreme right to the extreme left" over the drafting of the charter.

The 18-point Ikhwan pamphlet, also called in its first point for the application of Islam as the source for political life in Jordan.

"Islam is the faith and the civilisation of the nation... it is the source of its laws and directives of its policies in all aspects of life..." it said.

The Ikhwan statement called for protecting human rights, including that of women for their "great role in sharing with man the responsibility for developing the society."

The statement contained an implicit warning against any attempt to ignore Islam. "The nation has reached a high level of awareness towards the role of this basis (Islam) of its life that we view with disdain and disgust, anyone who underestimates this fundamental. We classify such people as outside the circle of the nation and we reject their belonging to it," the statement warned.

"After all, the Jordanian Con-

stitution states clearly that Islam is the faith of this nation and this should be respected and adhered to," he said.

Asked if that implied the exclusion of Communists and Marxists, he said: "They can be included in the political life if they renounce their atheism."

Another prominent Muslim fundamentalist figure, Dr. Ismael Al Farhan, called publicly Monday on the Communists to renounce atheism.

Abu Ghannam argued that Communists could change their name and indicate respect to Islam if they wanted to be accepted.

The Ikhwan pamphlet and recent statements by the movement's members in Parliament contradicted earlier statements by the speaker of the Islamic bloc in Parliament indicating tolerance of all trends. In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Abdul Latif Araby said in January that the movement supported freedom of political organisation for all trends.



## OUT OF FOCUS

### 97 dinars counting down

By Adnan Saeed Aqel

**THE OTHER DAY,** I was handing a cigarette off the office messenger. "Times are hard now," he wailed, prodding a carefully extracted cigarette from his pack. "I can no longer afford to offer cigarettes to anyone." Well, that's understandable from the dwindling looks of the pack, I sympathised as he leaned over to light the cigarette.

"If it's only cigarettes I can understand," he pressed home the point. "But, you turn anywhere, you pay through your nose."

The answer is simple, I reminded him: the plunge in the dinar's value against the dollar.

"Well, I don't care for what the dollar costs; I have never held one dollar in my hand in my entire life," he said. "But will someone tell me why we have to pay today almost triple the price of last year for local goods. Take sugar for instance. Last year, it was around 700 fils per kilo now it's almost two dinars. And don't tell me we import it from the U.S."

Perhaps he should change his living styles to cope with inflation, I told him.

"Don't tell me," he got a little worked up. "I haven't had good old Bulgarian lamb for the last month. They say it's available for one dinar and 400 fils, but I fail to find any in the market."

But, there is the local meat, I pointed out. "Who's talking about local meat?" he retorted. "By God, I haven't bought local meat in the last seven years. It's too expensive for me. These days I settle for chicken when I have the courage to buy it. You think I can possibly buy meat for three dinars and 600 fils per kilo with my 97 dinars salary?"

"I swear on my son, I wanted to buy a kilo of apples today but changed my mind when they told me it was 600 fils," he continued. "Look at green beans; they used to cost 100 to 200 fils a kilo; now it's 600 fils. Onions which used to cost an average of 100 fils now cost 250 fils and then you don't find it when you want them."

I don't particularly like onions, I told him, but how was he managing his home and family of nine? "We would have been starving had it not been for my son who brings home about 50 dinars from an accountants' office," he replied. "But this will stop in two months when he joins the army."

"May be I will have to quit smoking and walk my way to the office and home," he was distraught. "It will mean getting up at least an hour earlier."

"What's really killing me," he said, "is that I feel so low when my children ask me when I can buy them new clothes. We have never been to the market in the last six months."

"Look at my shoes," he gestured to his worn-out footwear. "These are six years old. I bought the pair for three dinars, and now something similar costs eight or nine dinars."

"They tell me we haven't seen anything yet," he added with a forlorn look. "Prices will continue to go up but no salary raises."

"There has to be some solution," he insisted. "This cannot continue. At least I make 97 dinars, but there are others who make 50 or 60 dinars for a family of 12 or 15. How are they going to manage?"

Well, they have cable television to look forward to, I wanted to tell him after taking a deep pull but found that my cigarette had gone out.

## Mahfouz's masterpiece is published in English

By Christopher Dickey

IN the heart of the world where Naguib Mahfouz grew up there is a neighbourhood of hidden places called Gemaiya. To get there from Cairo's bazaar you must pass the Husayn Mosque, where the beggars hold out leprosy hands. From inside come the chanting voices of men in prayer. Follow the snaking alleys and twisted streets, where flies swarm among the crumbling villas, and women in black robes look out from the skewed sills of ancient windows as you pass.

There is no Baedeker's guide to this quarter. There are only the novels of Mahfouz to show you the way. The alleys, the houses, the places and mosques and the people who live among them are evoked as vividly in his work as the streets of London were conjured up by Dickens. Mahfouz, now 78, won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1988 for his stories about this world, the first Arab ever to be given the honour. Yet his greatest books — "The Cairo Trilogy," which span three generations of one Gemaiya family — have never been available in English. Now at last the first volume, "Palace Walk" (498 pages. Doubleday, \$22.95), has come out in the United States, in a good translation by William M. Hutchins and Olive E. Kenny.

"Palace Walk," first published in 1956, is the best of Mahfouz's work. He drew heavily on autobiography (like the character Kamal, he was the youngest son in a large merchant clan). He writes about family, and to understand the Egyptian family is to understand, more clearly than any political treatise can explain, the soul of the country. When chaos reigns, the family is a safe retreat, giving Egypt an almost gyroscopic stability as colonial powers and demagogic leaders have come and gone.

The family in "Palace Walk" is tested by its own internal tensions and by the political tumult of Egypt at the end of World War I. The sexual passions of one son and the political passions of another threaten to tear the home apart. But the mother holds everything together. At first she seems a pitiful figure — married at 14 and forbidden forever to venture outside her home. She knew far more about the world of the jinn than that of mankind and remained convinced that she was not alone in the big house. But her strength lies in her intimacy with the family's secrets. She had no regrets about reconciling herself to a type of security based on surrender," writes Mahfouz. Her one effort at escape is an act of piety that ends in disaster.

Mahfouz's newfound recognition in the West comes after a life filled with fame and controversy

# World conference on Education for All: A global initiative to meet basic learning needs

ON the threshold of a new century, the world faces major economic, environmental, political and social problems, but a global effort is being made to meet these challenges through education for all.

In an unprecedented partnership, four agencies of the United Nations system — the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Bank — have launched a world-wide initiative to meet basic learning needs.

The four are the principal sponsors of the World Conference on Education for All currently being held at Jomtien, Thailand.

The goal is to meet the basic learning needs of all, that is, to equip people with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes they need to live in dignity, to continue learning, to improve their own lives and to contribute to the development of their communities and nations.

### Goals for the year 2000

Despite significant expansion in primary education in recent decades, a growing number of children are not in school, the number of illiterate youth and adults is increasing, and the basic learning needs of many go unmet.

If current trends and conventional approaches to education and training continue, the state of education will certainly worsen, thus aggravating rather than solving global problems.

According to UNESCO, about 105 million children between six and 11 years old were not in school in 1985. Seventy per cent of these were in least developed nations and 60 per cent were girls. If current trends continue, the number of out-of-school children will almost double to 200 million by the year 2000.

Success or failure in meeting the basic learning needs of all people will depend ultimately on the actions taken within individual countries. A carefully planned, innovative, long term effort by each country is needed:

While each country will set its own goals, the conference will suggest targets for the year 2000. In general, these goals will cover primary education for all children by the end of the century. Because it is the major vehicles for basic education of children, quality primary schooling will be central to the new effort.

The second goal is to reduce dramatically the adult illiteracy rate. Currently, nearly one in four adults, or more than 900 million men and women, are illiterate. Nearly 98 per cent of these live in developing countries. The Conference aims to reduce adult illiteracy to 15 per cent by the year 2000.

Asia will remain the heart of the problem with nearly 660 million illiterates; Africa will have about 165 million; and Latin America and the Caribbean region 42 million. North America and Europe will have only about 17 million, although these people are particularly disadvantaged in their societies.

According to UNESCO, more than one half of today's illiterate



disparities within and among countries; increasing marginalisation of populations; severe deterioration of the environment and rapid population growth.

Yet basic education can be a powerful factor in shaping these very forces and in dealing with their effects. It helps meet other basic human needs, increases productivity, enhances social and cultural awareness, and promotes international understanding.

The Conference aims to reverse the current threat of economic stagnation or decline. Ample evidence exists on education's contribution to economic development. For example, primary schooling is known to improve the productivity of workers in the factory and the field and to provide the necessary skills for self-employment and entrepreneurship.

But if present trends continue, people will continue to lack learning opportunities. William Draper, the administrator of UNDP, says that education "is being short-changed... as low-income countries struggle with their debt-ridden economies." He points out that, between 1972 and 1985, central government investment in education dropped from 13.2 per cent to 7.6 per cent of the total budgets of all low-income countries except India and China.

The financial crisis in many developing countries is but one pressure on education.

Major economic, social and cultural forces are all putting strain on efforts to meet basic learning needs — widespread economic stagnation and decline; growing

country are linked to behaviour that could be changed by education.

The only known "cure" for AIDS at present is prevention. People need to learn what the human immunodeficiency virus is, how it is transmitted, and to alter their behaviour to avoid contracting the disease.

Environmentalists warn that the very survival of our planet is rapidly becoming an issue of public education.

Getting more children into schools for several years may never achieve an enduring level of literacy.

Nor are educational problems confined to the developing world. An increasing number of school-leavers in some industrialised countries are functionally illiterate, unable to realise their potential in a technologically complex society.

Governments, donors and educators from around the world are analysing scores of successful models and ideas to improve the quality of, as well as access to, education.

Meeting basic learning needs requires creativity and the imaginative use of all possible means and sources of education. Many developing countries will find it rewarding to turn to other channels of education, such as religious and community-based instruction. They will also be calling upon radio, television, newspapers, clubs and libraries.

A vast range of educational technologies from folk drama and traditional songs to television and computers will be used to teach children and adults and to train instructors.

In one successful example of alternative education, the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) is trying to educate children — especially very poor rural children — who cannot be reached by government schools or, once reached, do not stay in school.

Everyone needs to help

"Education cannot be only the business of public funding," says Federico Mayor, director-

general of UNESCO. He points out that even among those children fortunate enough to go to school, standards are not even, and dropout and repetition rates are high.

"The quality of education provided in many Third World schools is sometimes so distressingly poor," says Dr. Mayor, "that even pupils who persist in schools for several years may never achieve an enduring level of literacy."

But more than money will be needed. Just as critical to the effort is mobilising the support of key partners, such as family, community organisations, religious bodies and the mass media.

Such alliances are not without precedent. The child survival movement, coordinated by UNICEF, was able to mobilise governments and a wide spectrum of partners ranging from political leaders to clergymen, to take on deadly childhood diseases and thus save millions of young lives.

Sponsors of the Conference are confident that the same impact would be achieved in education with worldwide consensus and a commitment to work together.

An example of such cooperation is in Jabaliyah, a refugee camp for Palestinians in the occupied territories of the Gaza Strip.

There, parents and local communities have joined with the American Friends Service Committee and Save the Children Fund (UK), two international voluntary organisations, to provide pre-schooling for 1,600 five-year-old each year.

There is a growing consensus among nations and international organisations that human development must be the core of any development process. Education — the empowerment of individuals through learning — for all people will prove to be the critical ingredient for meeting the serious challenges the world faces in the next decade and the new century.

**"Basic learning can help contain and even reverse the current threat of economic stagnation or decline. Ample evidence exists on education's contribution to economic development. For example, primary schooling is known to improve the productivity of workers in the factory and the field and to provide the necessary skills for self-employment and entrepreneurship."**

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## World Bank to double loans for education

JOMTIEN, Thailand (R) — The World Bank, often accused by Third World countries of forcing them to divert funds from education, Tuesday pledged to double its lending for teaching projects in developing nations.

"Education is the key to development," World Bank President Barber Conable told the World Conference on Education.

"A nation simply cannot hope to sustain economic growth and alleviate poverty without a literate and numerate population," he said.

The five-day conference, which opened at this Thai beach resort Monday, is organised by the World Bank and three United Nations organisations.

With 1,500 delegations, including four heads of state, it is

billed as the biggest of its kind. One of the most hotly-debated issues at the conference is how developing countries burdened with huge foreign debt can pay for new schemes.

"Foreign debt impedes our struggle for economic development, conspires against efforts to ensure education and denies funds available for education projects," Ecuador's President Rodrigo Borja said Monday.

Conable, peppered his speech with quotes from Plato on the enabling influence of education, said the World Bank was the largest single source of external funding for education in developing countries. It has loaned more than \$10 billion since 1963.

Lending will be doubled to an annual \$1.5 billion over the next three years, he said.

Poor countries should focus on improving the quality of education, making it accessible to all, boosting private sector involvement and diverting more funds to training engineers and scientists, Conable said.

The bank help countries set up policy frameworks with particular attention to education for girls, and science and technology programmes in secondary and higher education.

According to U.N. figures, more than 100 million children have no access to primary schooling and current trends suggest this figure could double by the turn of the century. Some 980 million adults in the world are illiterate, two-thirds of them women.

## China's austerity programme backfires on government

BEIJING (R) — China's austerity drive has begun to backfire on government plans to raise funds, draining badly needed cash from bond sales, diplomats said Tuesday.

The 19-month-old credit squeeze has hit many industries so hard they can no longer afford to buy bonds the government sells as a major source of income, the diplomats said.

Falling bond sales mean the government has less money to bail out a growing number of money-losing state industries.

"It is a vicious circle from which there is no easy escape," said a Western diplomat specialising in China's economy.

Sales of bonds and treasury notes this year will probably reach 10 billion yuan (\$2.1 billion), down slightly from 1989, according to the latest edition of the pro-Beijing China Economic News.

"It is difficult for the government to redeem old bonds by issuing new ones because practically all domestic enterprises,

which constitute the major bond buyers, are short of cash," said the weekly, printed in Hong Kong but supported by official Beijing publications.

Started in September, 1988, to combat runaway prices, the austerity programme has slashed state debt to industry.

But now it has also begun to limit the state's borrowing from industry.

The credit crunch sent 800,000 rural industrial enterprises crashing into bankruptcy in 1989 and forced many others to balt production and slash wages.

China experienced its worst decline in industrial output in a decade in January, when total production fell 6.1 per cent from the same month a year earlier.

Figures emerging last week showed subsidies paid by the state of prop up money-losing state enterprises totalled 100 billion yuan (\$21.2 billion) in 1989, one-third of total central government spending.

The state's budget deficit for 1989, to be announced when par-

liament meets this month, is likely to exceed its projected 7.4 billion yuan (\$1.56 billion).

Total domestic debt is substantially larger, and many state companies have been unable to clear debts owed to other state enterprises.

The official China Daily newspaper said Tuesday the best solution for the government was to reflate consumer buying power, thus allowing companies to sell off stockpiled goods.

"The crux of revitalising the economy was to encourage moderate consumption," the newspaper said.

This would enrich industry, weening it off state subsidies and enabling it to once more buy government bonds, diplomats said.

But a surge in consumer buying could rekindle inflation, thereby undoing the austerity programme's main success. Inflation reached a peak year-on-year level 27.9 per cent in February, 1989, was reduced to 17.8 per cent for the full year.

## Soviets make historic change

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet parliament gave overwhelming approval Tuesday to legislation allowing Soviets to own factories and hire workers for the first time in nearly 70 years.

In the early 1920s, Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin and his Bolsheviks retreated from their drive to implement communism and allowed private ownership of the means of production under the new economic policy, or NEP.

Tuesday's vote by the Supreme Soviet was hailed by supporters as a progressive step rather than

another retreat from socialism. It is one of the key elements of President Mikhail Gorbachev's economic reform package.

"This is an enormous step forward because it lays down the principle of pluralism in the forms of ownership and their protection from the government," deputy Alexei Yablokov said.

After a section-by-section vote of each of the bill's six parts, it received final approval on a vote of 350-3. Eleven deputies abstained.

The joint meeting of the Supreme Soviet's two houses broke

into applause as the total was announced.

The section dealing with the property rights of Soviet citizens, which includes the right to own factories and other means of producing goods, passed 354-0 with 13 abstentions.

A Western diplomat watching the session said it would be the first time since NEP that Soviets would be allowed to own the means of production. Soviets traditionally have been allowed to own cars, summer homes, and other personal property.

The law also gives individuals the right to hire others to work for them as long as their pay and benefits are in keeping with Soviet law. The private ownership of factories and hired labour are regarded in classic Marxism as exploitation of workers, and were one of the key targets of Lenin's revolution.

Noted political commentator Fyodor Burlatsky, also a deputy, called the bill a good start but said it was inadequate to pull the Soviet Union from its economic quagmire.

Vice President Anatoly Lukyanov, who led the joint meeting of the Supreme Soviet's two chambers, urged the legislature not to hold up the bill, which is to become law July 1.

"We need this law to go into effect fast," he said.

Lukyanov tried to bring the bill up for a vote Monday, but was frustrated by a lack of quorum the day after local elections in Russia, the Ukraine and Byelorussia.

On matters of trade the first store selling Western computers opened in Moscow Monday, sporting an American flag over the door and a huge red banner reading: "Business to business, person to person."

But despite the inviting sign, only those Soviets with hard currency can buy the computers, including IBM and other leading brands, and most trade was expected to come from Soviet research institutes and businesses rather than individuals.

"The potential for business is tremendous," said Michael Tseytin, a Soviet emigre and president of the New Jersey-based franchise running the Computerland Store on Kosygin Street, near Moscow University.

The IEA said OPEC output in January remained just above 23 million barrels per day (b/d), which analysts reckon is probably

despite excess supply by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

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## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Italy pledges tests at World Cup

ROME (R) — Italian organisers of this summer's World Cup soccer finals pledged Monday that doping tests would be carried out at all matches. Medical teams in each of the 12 host cities will test players picked at random from both teams after every game, Italian doctor Michel D'Hooghe, head of the World Cup medical commission, told a news conference. Tests will be carried out on three players from each team in the semifinals and the final, and on two players per team for all other matches, officials said. "The anti-doping controls are severe. Soccer, luckily, seems not to suffer from drugs — partly because it's a team game," said Leonard Vecchiet, doctor for Italy's national squad. The last case of doping at a World Cup involved Spanish midfielder Ramon Caldera, whose federation was fined \$13,900 after a test showed he took banned drugs at the Mexico World Cup in 1986.

### Wimbledon to stage women's over-35

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Wimbledon will hold a women's over-35 doubles event for the first time this summer, with players such as former singles champions Chris Evert, Billie Jean King and Virginia Wade eligible for the competition. The invitation-only event will replace the women's plate, in which first- and second-round losers were eligible. Eight pairs will be invited to participate in the doubles event, which will be open to any player older than 35 who has reached the semifinals of the women's singles or the final of the women's doubles since 1970.

### U.S. selects team members

NEW YORK (AP) — Andre Agassi, Brad Gilbert, Rick Leach and Jim Pugh were selected Monday by Davis Cup captain Tom Gorman to play for the United States March 30-April 1 against Czechoslovakia. For Gilbert, it will be his third consecutive Davis Cup match. He played in this year's opening-round victory over Mexico, winning two singles matches. Last year, Gilbert played in the United States' losing semifinal match against West Germany. His overall Davis Cup record is 6-2 in singles. Agassi will make his 1990 Davis Cup debut against Czechoslovakia. He played two matches in 1988 and three in 1989, compiling a 7-2 singles record. Leach and Pugh made their Davis Cup debut as a doubles team in the opening round victory over Mexico. In this week's world rankings, Gilbert is fourth and Agassi eighth. In the doubles rankings, Leach is third and Pugh fourth.

### Colombia will attend World Cup

BOGOTA (R) — Colombia's national soccer team said Monday it will play in June's World Cup tournament in Italy despite death threats from a group seeking to rid local soccer of drug money. "Of course we will go. We qualified and we must go," said a spokeswoman for the Colombian Soccer Federation. In February the team suspended practice and play after a group calling itself cleanliness in Colombian soccer threatened to kill players, coaches and several sportswriters.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH  
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### GIVE THE ENEMY A HELPING HAND

Neither vulnerable. South deals:  
NORTH  
♦ K 7 4  
♥ A 8 6 5  
♦ K J 10  
♦ 6 5 3  
WEST  
♦ J 10 9 3  
♦ 10 3  
♦ 8 5 2  
♦ K Q J 10 ♦ 8  
SOUTH  
♦ A 6 2  
♥ K 4  
♦ A Q 9  
♦ A 9 7 4 2  
The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 3 NT Pass  
Pass Pass  
Opening lead: King of ♦  
When you speak of a falso card, many players look for something dramatic, such as dropping a guard-ed king under an ace to induce a shift. Those plays turn up infrequently, and are often missed by the East. But there is a whole gamut of deceptive maneuvers that occur frequently, and are so simple they often sneak by unnoticed.  
Note: North's jump to three no trump despite possession of a four-card major. With a perfectly bal-

anced hand and hence, no ruffing value, the consensus is to forgo probing for a 4-4 major fit in favor of the value bid, although not all players agree with that approach.

This hand is from a pair tournament. Some declarers won the ace of clubs and, since they needed a second club trick to make the contract, returned the suit. When East showed out on the second round, West shifted to the jack of spades and the defenders were a tempo ahead. They had to come to two spade tricks and three club tricks before declarer could red in nine tricks.

Other Southerns followed with the deuce of clubs to the first trick. Some Wests continued clubs to allow declarer to get home; most shifted to a spade for down one. One small group of declarers fulfilled the contract in every case. These were those who played the seven of clubs to the first trick, concealing their two lower clubs. Each West presumed that East's eight of clubs was a come-on signal, so they never even considered a spade switch. The club continuation was taken with the ace and a club back-up declarer ahead in the race to establish tricks.

## DUTY UNPAID CAR FOR SALE

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Please contact Mr. Yoo, tel. 684253, 684254, Amman.

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Tel: 625155

## BILOXI BLUES

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

## CONCORD

Tel: 677420

## TWINS



Performances: 9:30, 10:15, 10:30

## Wilander upset in Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS, California (R) — Mats Wilander, the ninth seed in the one-million-dollar Champions Cup Tennis Tournament, went down to a familiar foe Monday.

Wilander, playing in his first tournament since the Davis Cup in February, lost to fellow Swede and good friend, Jan Gunnarsson, 7-6, 6-4.

In other upsets, Alberto Martini, the 11th seed from Argentina, was beaten by the big-serving Dutchman, Michael Schapers, 6-4, 6-1 in the first round. Richey Renberg, an American ranked 42, toppled 25th ranked Czech, and defending champion, Miloslav Meir, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3. Neither player was seeded.

Martin Jaite, the tenth seeded Argentine, was defeated by Yugoslavia's unseeded Goran Ivanisevic, 6-1, 6-4. Andrei Chesnokov, the 15th seed from the Soviet Union was also an upset victim. Chesnokov, ranked 18, was beaten by American qualifier, Brad Pearce, ranked 154, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.



Mats Wilander

Wilander, currently ranked 11, looked a shadow of the player who was number one in the world in 1988 after winning the U.S. Open. Errors flowed from his backhand and he allowed Gunnarsson to dictate the pace, playing defensively to drop the first set in the tiebreak, 7-4, with a backhand into the net.

Wilander made a brief rally in the second set, taking a 3-0 lead, but he could not consolidate his effort, as the big serves of Gunnarsson dictated the underdog back on the offensive. At 3-3, Gunnarsson broke Wilander on another netted shot by the ninth seed, then kept the lead with a series of aces and served out the match 6-4 with a smash.

"Maybe it was my serve that won the match," said Gunnarsson, who has played Wilander since their childhood spent in the same Swedish town. "He's a nice guy and we're best friends so it was not so nice to beat him. But he makes more mistakes than I used to."

Wilander came to the tournament ill-prepared, having taken three weeks off before practicing for three days prior to Monday's action. His rustiness cost him against Gunnarsson.

"It takes a while to get back and this was not enough," Wilander said. "He served better than I expected him to and that got him out of a lot of trouble."

Meir, once ranked in the top ten, was hampered by back trouble against Renberg, and struggled with his serve. "He had trouble with his back and I was able to break his serve more than he held," said Renberg. "He didn't look physically one hundred per cent."

final decision this week.

Hecht said Pilie would announce his team for the Buenos Aires match after next week's tournament in key Biscayne.

Michael Stich, who won his first tournament in Memphis Sunday, appears certain to be picked as Becker's replacement and could be given the second singles slot.

Carl-Uwe Stech and Eric Jelen played the key singles against the Netherlands, with Stech making his Davis Cup debut in the doubles with Jelen.

Patrick Kuehnen is the most likely candidate for the fourth spot on the team to play Argentina.

At the end of the tournament in Buenos Aires, however, Becker said he might consider a return to the Davis Cup team for his decision to skip the world group second-round tie in Buenos Aires.

## Becker pulls out of Davis Cup match

HAMBURG, West Germany (AP) — Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion Boris Becker Monday pulled out of West Germany's Davis Cup match against Argentina in Buenos Aires later this month, a tennis federation spokesman said.

Becker's withdrawal diminishes West Germany's chances of surviving the tough match in Argentina and retaining the Davis Cup title it has won twice in a row.

"We regret Becker's decision but we accept it," West German Tennis Federation spokesman Jens-Peter Hecht said.

Hecht said Becker called team captain Niki Pilie from Indian Wells Monday to inform him of his decision to skip the world group second-round tie in Buenos

Aires March 30-April 1. Becker is the top seed at the Indian Wells tournament that opened Monday.

Becker, ranked second in the world behind Ivan Lendl, also withdrew from West Germany's opening world group tie against the Netherlands in February but the West Germans still won 3-2.

The West German star has said that playing the Davis Cup in addition to the crowded ATP tour would interfere with his ambition to replace Lendl as the number one player in the world.

After winning a tournament in Brussels last month, however, Becker said he might consider a return to the Davis Cup team for his decision to skip the world group second-round tie in Buenos Aires.

Patrick Kuehnen is the most likely candidate for the fourth spot on the team to play Argentina.

## Why do some people engage in thrill sports?

By Ira Dreyfuss  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Cindy Chidester steps out of perfectly fine airplanes while they're still flying, so she can feel herself falling faster, faster...

"I just always wanted to do it," said the 34-year-old manager of Hartwood Paracenter, in Hartwood, Virginia. "Some people are almost governed by risk-taking and tend to be optimists who like 'uncertainty, novelty, intensity, and lack of structure,'" Farley said.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, says Farley, are the "small T's" — "people who want a life of predictability, custom, tradition, the familiar rather than the new."

People with a "big T" personality are almost governed by risk-taking and tend to be optimists who like "uncertainty, novelty, intensity, and lack of structure," Farley said.

Big T's, says Farley, may like skydiving. Little T's, he says, may like sports that have you do the

same thing over and over again. "You'd be unlikely to find a T-type as a long-distance runner... that would bore the T-type."

Chidester concedes it sounds a lot like her.

"I used to run, but it is boring," she says. "In skydiving, you don't have to hold anything back."

The kind of activity that sticks a big T is not necessarily the same kind that motivates a professional athlete, said Farley. For one thing, sports like football and basketball require you to have those boring practice sessions. For another, the risk of loss in competitive sports is a different kind of risk.

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same thing over and over again.

"You'd be unlikely to find a

T-type as a long-distance run-

ner... that would bore the T-

type."

## POSITION VACANCY

### AID Project Management Specialist Family Health Services

The U.S. Agency for International Development has a vacancy for an AID Project Management Specialist (Family Health Services). The applicant should have a Bachelor's degree in a health or allied health field with four to six years of progressively responsible, professional level experience in health or allied health field. At least three years of this experience should have been in responsible development assistance or related work for other donor organisations, host-government organisation or private sector institutions. Graduate degrees such as M.A., M.S., PhD, M.D. may be substituted for an equivalent portion of the work experience.

Interested candidates who believe they have the required qualifications to fill this position may apply in writing by submitting a recent biographical data and salary history in English to the following address:

Personnel Office  
U.S. Agency for International Development  
P.O. Box 354  
Amman, Jordan

Deadline for accepting applications is March 14, 1990.

## POSITION VACANCY

### Public Health/Child Survival Services

The U.S. Agency for International Development has a vacancy for an AID Project Management Specialist (Public Health/Child Survival Services). The applicant should have a Bachelor's degree in a health or allied health field with five to seven years of progressively responsible, professional level experience in health or allied health field. At least four years of this experience should have been in responsible development assistance or related work for other donor organisations, host-government organisation or private sector institutions. Graduate degrees such as M.A., M.S., PhD, M.D. may be substituted for an equivalent portion of the work experience. However, some work experience will normally be required for this position.

Interested candidates who believe they have the required qualifications to fill this position may apply in writing by submitting a recent biographical data and salary history in English to the following address:

Personnel Office  
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## RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

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## CONCORD

Tel: 677420

## TWINS



## PHILADELPHIA

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Omar Al Sharif and Murvat Amin in AL ARAGOUZ (Arabic)

Performances: 3:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15

## NIJOUN

### NIGHT & TRAITORS (Arabic)

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

## PLAZA

## KICK BOXER

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

## Egypt players pelted with fruit after cup exit

ALGIERS (R) — Egypt's soccer players were pelted with fruit and rubbish by Algerian fans after the team were knocked out of the African Nations Cup on Monday.

Egypt lost 1-0 to Nigeria in a group quarterfinal match on a day when Algeria became the first country to qualify for the semifinals by trouncing Ivory Coast 3-0.

Rabah Madjer, the game's outstanding player, was behind all three goals, starting in the 24th minute with a superb one-twos with Djamel Menad, who thrust Algeria ahead.

Booted by 65,000 Algerian fans, the Egyptians were stopped for 10 minutes by a shower of objects before being able to enter the changing rooms. The players walked off the field under heavy police guard.

Ortega warns of war if rebels replace army

## Chamorro offers amnesty to contras

MANAGUA (AP) — President-elect Violeta Barrios de Chamorro has promised total amnesty for contra rebels and the immediate abolition of the military draft.

Mrs. Chamorro, 60, who defeated the Sandinista National Liberation Front (SNLF) in Feb. 25 elections, said Monday it would be "ideal for the contras to demobilise before April 25," when she is inaugurated.

In Honduras, the contras Monday expressed their willingness to turn over their arms to the national opposition union coalition that Chamorro heads.

"We have already begun contacts with the civilian government headed by Violeta de Chamorro as a step toward our demobilisation," contra spokesman Alejandro Acevedo said in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

The resistance fighters have the willingness to give their arms to UNO, but not until the new administration takes over in Nicaragua," he added.

Although the Sandinistas were able to reach a ceasefire with the contras, the rebels were unwilling to lay down their arms to the president-elect said her victory "made everybody happy throughout the world" and that her new government has received

leftist government in a decade of civil war.

The rebels, claiming the Sandinistas had betrayed the goals of the 1979 revolution that toppled the Somoza family dynasty, began receiving U.S. aid in 1981. They now receive only non-lethal assistance from the United States.

The civil war has caused an estimated 30,000 deaths. The Sandinistas say there are about 4,000 armed contras in groups inside Nicaragua. Another 12,000 contras and 42,000 dependents are living in camps in Honduras, just across the border.

Chamorro, trying to bring "reconciliation" to a divided Nicaragua, told the Associated Press in an interview, "the contras need guarantees to come home, so we may have peace. I want to do my best as president to govern with harmony, with peace, so we may forgive one another because we are Nicaraguans."

The president-elect said her victory "made everybody happy throughout the world" and that her new government has received

offers of aid from countries including the Soviet Union, which provided assistance to the Sandinistas, the United States and Britain.

Chamorro said that she expects a peaceful transition, despite rumours that some sectors within the Sandinista leadership, especially in the army and internal security, are reluctant to yield power.

Chamorro said there would be no jobs for contra rebels in her government or army.

Sandinista officials have voiced fears that Chamorro could give senior positions to contras who lay down their arms and return home.

Asked in an interview with Reuters if the rebels could expect any posts in government or army, Chamorro said: "I don't think so. We have to cut down all of that."

Chamorro said her hope, and that of the Nicaraguan people, was for a peaceful handing over of the government on April 25.

Chamorro joined President Daniel Ortega last week in calling for the immediate disbanding of

the contras.

Ortega warned Monday of "national war" if the new government replaced the Sandinista army with contra rebels or members of ousted dictator Anastasio Somoza's National Guard.

Speaking to a group of pro-Sandinista teachers and students, Ortega said Chamorro must prevent the leftist Sandinista army and Interior Ministry Security Forces or suffer grave consequences.

Meanwhile, advisers to Nicaragua's newly elected government arrived in Washington to seek help for their country's maulled economy but U.S. officials said Monday that aid would not be immediately forthcoming.

"We want to provide aid as soon as possible, but we just can't put a timetable on it," said White House spokesman Marin Fitzwater.

"The aid question is being worked on currently," he said. "We have optimism that the European allies, as well as Soviet Union and Japan, are (also) willing to help."

## 20 killed, 300 injured in arson, looting after Ciskei military coup

BISHOP, South Africa (R) — Twenty people were killed and 300 injured in an orgy of arson and looting following a military coup in the South African tribal homeland of Ciskei, hospital workers said Tuesday.

Doctors and nurses at the Cecilia Makwane Hospital near the Ciskei capital of Bishop said most of the dead and injured fell victim to drunken mobs that rampaged through the streets setting fire to hotels and factories and looting shops.

Four people were burned to death when they were trapped in a lift in a hotel that was set

ablaze.

Hospital workers said many of the dead and injured had suffered gunshot and stab wounds.

Others had been burned in the industrial suburb of Mdantsane, where mobs looted liquor stores and then smashed and firebombed virtually every factory and shop.

"Drink was a big factor," said one hospital worker who asked not to be named. "We are treating children as young as 12 for alcohol poisoning."

Doctors and nurses at the hospital were still treating the injured in a blood-spattered casualty

ward early Tuesday.

Soldiers and police have not intervened to halt the violence, which erupted soon after the regime of Ciskei President Lennox Sebe was toppled in a military takeover Sunday.

Pretoria Monday rushed troops to the border of Ciskei, home to 800,000 people, to protect white South African properties near the homeland.

Coup leaders told reporters Monday a first wave of South African troops and police had deployed in Bishop at their request and added they had later asked Pretoria for further reinforcements.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Seoul warns North over 'invasion tunnel'

SEOUL (AP) — South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo warned North Korea Tuesday it would face "a suicidal situation" if it continued such acts as digging "invasion tunnels" under the fortified North-South Korean border. "The North Korean leaders must know that they could face a self-destructive, suicidal situation if they continue such anti-national acts," Roh said in a speech to the graduating class of the Korea Military Academy. He did not elaborate. Roh said Saturday's discovery of a new secret tunnel under the eastern part of the demilitarised zone separating the two Koreas showed that the Communist government in Pyongyang might try to vent its pent-up frustration through military means. North Korea has denied digging the tunnel.

#### Nations urged to sign nuclear pact

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. President George Bush has marked the 20th anniversary of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT) by urging nations that are not now signatories to join in the pact. In a written statement Bush called it a "significant arms control instrument" that has paved the way for international cooperation in peaceful uses of atomic energy. "It is essential in these times of great change and great promise, and of major progress in arms control, that the community of nations works together even more diligently to prevent nuclear proliferation, which poses one of the greatest risks to the survival of mankind," he said. "I urge all states that are not party to the NPT to join and thereby demonstrate their support for the goal of preventing nuclear non-proliferation." Bush added.

#### Baker to visit Namibia

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James Baker will attend independence ceremonies later this month in Namibia on a trip to Africa that could involve him directly in a U.S.-backed effort to dismantle racial segregation in South Africa. So far, the State Department is reluctant to disclose details of what could turn out to be a nine-day trip to seven countries. Spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler announced only his stop in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia. Preparations were underway for possible visits to Senegal, Zaire, Botswana, Zambia, Ivory Coast and South Africa, where the white minority government last month ended a 30-year ban on the African National Congress and released black leader Nelson Mandela from prison.

#### Poll shows Quebec wants independence

MONTREAL (R) — Most people in Quebec now want independence for the province, according to a poll that reflects deteriorating relations between French and English Canadians. The poll results indicate a reversal in the provincial majority's long-held view that Quebec is better off within Canada and also springs from a new-found confidence among the people of Quebec that their province could succeed on its own. The survey conducted for Le Journal de Montréal showed 58.4 per cent of the people would approve of sovereignty for the French-speaking province while 26.7 per cent opposed it. The survey, published Saturday, was taken last month of 1,031 people in Quebec, both English and French-speaking. No margin of error was given.

#### 15,000 Indian troops remain in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Less than 15,000 Indian peacekeeping troops remain in northeastern Sri Lanka with the withdrawal of 5,200 troops during the past two weeks, officials have said. Sri Lankan military officials said during the past week alone 2,658 Indian soldiers boarded ships in the northern Jaffna peninsula for India. The latest withdrawals left less than 15,000 troops on the island from the 40,000 who arrived over two years, said the officials who cannot be identified under briefing rules. An official of the Indian High Commission or embassy said the rest of the troops would leave Sri Lanka by March 31.

#### U.S. Republican chairman hospitalised

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican National Chairman Lee Atwater was hospitalised for observation after collapsing during a speech. A spokeswoman said initial tests were inconclusive and that he would remain in the hospital overnight. Leslie A. Goodman, press secretary for the Republican National Committee, said Monday Atwater had quickly regained consciousness after he fainted and keeled over as he was delivering a breakfast speech to a group of Republican contributors.

## Japan to consider more funds for U.S. forces

TOKYO (AP) — A top Japanese defence official said Tuesday Japan is ready to consider increasing funds for maintaining U.S. forces in Japan, if such a request is officially made by the United States.

"If the U.S. side makes a request in concrete terms, we will consider" increasing expenses for U.S. troops in Japan, Yozo Ishikawa, director general of the Defence Agency, told a news conference.

But Ishikawa, who assumed the agency's top post on Feb. 28 when Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu formed his cabinet following a major election victory, said he was heard nothing "official" about the request yet.

Ishikawa was referring to a statement by U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney during a television interview with the Cable News Network (CNN) Sunday that he wants Japan to assume "100 per cent" of the cost for maintaining U.S. military bases in Japan.

Critics of this idea maintain that without a brand new constitution, unification will simply amount to annexation of East Germany by the West.

The dilemma is highlighted in two seemingly contradictory articles of West Germany's 1949 constitution, known as the Basic Law.

But this argument has failed

## Different paths to unity tax East, West Germans

BONN (R) — The two Germanys have decided to unite — but the constitutional framework for a unified Germany is becoming a hotly-debated issue.

Politicians in East and West Germany are arguing over whether the new state should draw up a new constitution reflecting the divergent pasts of the two states — or simply adopt the one West Germany has.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, his liberal allies, and conservatives in East Germany favour the latter course, saying the present Bonn constitution could be moulded to take account of any special concerns of East Germans about the request yet.

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But this argument has failed

## S. African general: Secret unit planted bombs

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democratic leader Richard Gephardt said Tuesday it is time for the United States to begin providing direct aid to the Soviet Union to encourage political and economic change.

"America must think creatively and act boldly," the 1988 presidential candidate said in a speech prepared for a meeting of the liberal Centre for National Policy.

"We should be investing in our own self-interest. And stability, democracy and a market economy in the Soviet Union are in America's strong self-interest," he said.

The proposal seemed certain to spark debate on Capitol Hill, where lawmakers have been pressing for increased aid to other countries emerging from the shadow of Moscow's domination but have not ventured to propose immediate direct aid to the Soviet Union itself.

Gephardt, a Missouri congressman who ran unsuccessfully for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1988, proposed starting with a "food for freedom" programme to send U.S. food aid to the Soviets.

The United States also should waive trade restrictions with Moscow, including those on high-technology exports, and provide guarantees for businesses that want to invest in the Soviet Union.

Badenhorst said the Civil Cooperation Bureau — the secret that President F.W. de Klerk says he was not told of its existence until recently — blew up a Protea store owned by an anti-apartheid activist; exploded a bomb at a community hall in a mixed-race township near Cape Town and planned to deliver a baboon fetus to Tutu, an anti-apartheid leader and winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize.

Badenhorst told the investigating commissioner, Supreme Court Justice Louis Harms, the baboon fetus plan was called "operation apie." He said he did not know the reason for the operation, which was not carried out.

He said an internal military investigation started last November revealed that prominent anti-apartheid activists such as black mineworkers leader Cyril Ramaphosa, the Rev. Frank Chikane of the South African Council of Churches and Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the nation's largest Trade Union Federation, were on a list to have their movements monitored.

The military has said the secret bureau had 139 members and an annual budget of 28 million rand (\$11 million) and was engaged in highly sensitive intelligence-gathering operations in South Africa and abroad.

## Gephardt proposes direct U.S. aid to Soviet Union

UNION continue on its reformist road.

If Havel, who was imprisoned by the Communists, can call for aid to the Soviets, "the least we can do is listen," Gephardt said in a speech that also contained his harshest criticism to date of President George Bush's policy toward Eastern Europe.

"A stronger Soviet economy will facilitate the process of peace," said Gephardt. "How can the Soviets pull Red Army troops out of Eastern Europe if they have no home and no homes for them to return to in Russia?"

Direct U.S. aid is possible now because "the cold war as we have known it for four decades is over," Gephardt said.

The United States since May 1985 has sold 20 million metric tons of U.S.-grown wheat to the Soviet Union under subsidies worth hundreds of millions of dollars, but has never provided direct aid of the kind Gephardt proposed.

The Bush administration, in its budget for the year that begins on Oct. 1, has proposed an additional \$300 million in unspecified aid to emerging East European democracies. Gephardt said the amount should be at least \$500 million, "and that is only the beginning."

But he accused Bush of "a lack of leadership in this most crucial moment," throwing billions into the military budget to defend against "Communists who don't want to be Communists any more" while ignoring their economic needs.

## 7,000 American troops may be withdrawn from Korea

a hostile, enemy state.

A reduction of 7,000 troops would leave roughly 36,000 American military personnel in South Korea. Some analysts consider this the minimum until further studies are made of America's long-term security strategy in North Asia and the Pacific.

Senior U.S. and Korean officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday the possibility of a 7,000-soldier reduction has been fully discussed by both nations.

The group would recommend human rights oaths guaranteed by Bonn's Basic Law, such as the right to work, to a reasonable home and to live in a healthy environment.

Former Chancellor Willy Brandt, honorary chairman of the SPD in both Germanys, has backed the idea of a new constitution which would reflect the experiences of both states.

Wolfgang Ullmann, minister without portfolio in the East German government, said a new constitution should reflect his country's experience of the "total inhumanity" of NAZI and Communist dictatorships by enshrining a full catalogue of basic human rights.

"This envisages the possibility of West Germany legally ceasing to exist, stating: 'This Basic Law shall cease to be in force on the day on which a constitution adopted by a free decision of the German people comes into force.'

The SPD says Kohl is simply trying to annex East Germany.

Former Chancellor Helmut Kohl, his liberal allies and conservatives in East Germany favour the latter course, saying the present Bonn constitution could be moulded to take account of any provision for environment questions.

"A newly constituted Germany... could combine West Germany's 40-year tradition of the rule of law with the democratic authority of the revolutionary change in East Germany," the newspaper wrote.

The group would recommend human rights oaths guaranteed by Bonn's Basic Law, such as the right to work, to a reasonable home and to live in a healthy environment.

The trolley rails that linked the two sections of the pre-war German city are still embedded in the bridge over the river border. On both sides of the river the architecture is turn-of-the-century German.

The soaring cathedral is in Gorlice, which is the old heart of the town. Zgorzelec, says Szadkowski, "doesn't have a real centre like every Polish town."

Polish returning from jobs or vacations on the west side of the border describe anti-Polish sentiment surfacing: A restaurant refusing service or a store posting a sign, "toys for German children

only."

In western Poland, graffiti demanding "Germans go home" have appeared on bus stop walls.

"It has long been easier for East Germans to enter Poland on shopping forays than it is for the Poles to go West, and Germans have developed a reputation in Poland as rapacious consumers of scarce goods."

And yet a Polish-German family has also been spawned by the border traffic — "we have shared a few vodkas," says Szadkowski — and a common sense of new freedom after casting off Communist rule.

Local poles remember that when East Germans swam the Neisse last year, seeking to reach the West through the fracturing East Bloc, the people of Zgorzelec welcomed them with dry clothes and lifts to the West German embassy in Warsaw 480 kilometres away.

Now thoughts are focused on whether the Warsaw government can wield enough international influence to ensure the Neisse remains the permanent border.